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| **Action level for initiating a Hearing Conservation Program** | **85 dB(A)** | **85 dB(A)** |
| **Noise Measurement Exchange Rate** | **5 dB** | **3 dB** |
| **Engineering Controls and Administrative Controls** | **Initiated to reduce noise levels below 90dB(A)*** | **Initiated when feasible to reduce noise levels below 85dB(A)** |
| **Noise monitoring** | **Initial and when changes occur** | **Initial and when changes occur** |
| **Noise monitoring equipment** | **Annual electro-acoustic calibration required** | **Annual electro-acoustic calibration required** |
| **Impulse noise** | **Should not exceed 140 dBP SPL. Noise measurement equipment not specified** | **<u>Must</u> not exceed 140 dBP SPL. SLM specifications for measuring impulse noise are included** |
| **HPD's** | **Mandatory over 85 dB** | **Mandatory over 85 dB. Closed set of approved devices. Restrictions on use of noise muffs with radios and the use of hearing aids in noise.** |
| **Hearing Protective Devices HPD's** | **HPD's may be used to meet the 14 hr noise free requirement for reference audiogram** | **HPD's shall not be used to meet the 14 hour noise free requirement** |
| **Recordkeeping** | **Maintain noise exposure** | **Maintain noise exposure** |

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| **Reference Audiogram** | **Obtain within 6 months of employee's initial noise exposure. 1 year if using mobile testing** | **Obtain within 30 days of employees initial noise exposure** |
| **Significant Threshold shift** | **Average +/-10 dB or greater shift at 2000, 3000 and 4000 Hz in either ear** | **Average +/- 10 dB or greater shift at 2000, 3000, and 4000 Hz in either** |
| **Certification** | **Technicians operating microprocessor audiometers do not require certification** | **CAOHC certification or equivalent training is required to perform hearing test** |
| **Supervisor** | **Must be audiologist or physician** | **Must be audiologist or physician** |
| **Retest of STS** | **Allowed within 30 days** | **Required within 30 days** |
| **Reportable hearing loss** | **STS with resulting hearing loss >= 25 dB average at 2000, 3000 and 4000 Hz** | **STS with resulting hearing loss >= 25 dB average at 2000, 3000 and 4000 Hz** |
| **Maximum allowable background noise levels for audiometric testing** | **.5k=<40; 1k=<40; 2k=<47; 3k=<57;<br>4k= <62** | **.5k=<27; 1k=<29; 2k=<34; 3k=<39;<br>4k= <41** |
| **Age correction** | **Optional (see CFR 29, 1910.95 Appendix F)** | **Prohibited** |
| **Negative STS** | **No mention** | **Same as positive STS but improved hearing – follow-up required** |

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| **Biologic Calibration** | **+/-10 dB change acceptable on daily biologic calibration** | **+/- 5 dB change allowed for biologic calibration (+/- 10 dB at 6k Hz)** |
| **Training** | **Initial and annual** | **Initial and annual** |
| **Evaluation of program** | **Must have effective program** | **Must have effective program. Some metrics are specified** |
| **Signs** | **Must be posted in noise hazardous areas** | **Must be posted in noise hazardous areas** |
| **Forms** | **No mention** | **DD 2215, DD 2216, DD 2217 and other service specific forms are mandated** |
| **Ultrasound exposure limits** | **No mention** | **Specified for 10k- 50k Hz (see DoDI 6055.12, Table T1))** |
| **Noise abatement** | **No mention** | **Engineering controls as primary means; Risk Assessment Codes required** |
| **Deaf employees** | **No mention** | **Only reference and termination audiograms required** |